

Message Text

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15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 RSC-01 PPT-01 /022 W

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

SECSTATE WASHDC 334

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, OCON, BEWT, PFOR, HU, GE, WB

SUBJECT: TRAVEL IN GDR: GDR VISAS FOR COMMERCIAL OFFICERS

CONFERENCE EE (BERLIN, FEB 25-28)

REF: BUDAPEST 68

1. POLICY FOR TRAVEL BY US OFFICIAL PERSONNEL IN AND THROUGH GDR IS NOW UNDER REVIEW, AND WE HAVE REPEATED REFTEL TO DEPARTMENT AND BONN. FOR ADVANCE PLANNING OF BUDAPEST OFFICERS, AND SUBJECT TO MORE DEFINITIVE REPLY FROM DEPARTMENT, OUR VIEWS ON QUESTIONS RAISED FOLLOW.

2. DCM MUDD WILL NOT REQUIRE GDR VISA. A BASIC PRINCIPLE OF TRAVEL POLICY WILL REMAIN THAT US OFFICIAL PERSONNEL WILL NOT ACCEPT GDR BORDER CROSSING STAMPS AT CHECKPOINTS BETWEEN SOVIET SECTOR AND WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN INDICATING THAT THIS IS GDR STATE BORDER. IF CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS VISIT EAST BERLIN, THEY WILL ENTER IN OFFICIAL VEHICLES ON STRENGTH OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT ALONE.

3. TO AVOID GDR BORDER CONTROLS INSIDE BERLIN, MR. AND MRS. BACHMANN SHOULD ALTER THEIR PROPOSED ROUTE TO

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BYPASS EAST BERLIN, ENTERING WEST BERLIN VIA A GDR-

WEST BERLIN CHECKPOINT. ASSUMING THEY PLAN TO DRIVE FROM PRAGUE VIA DRESDEN, THEY MAY THEN EITHER TAKE NOTHBOUND AUTOBAHN TO BERLIN RING OR PROCEED WEST TO LEIPZIG AND THENCE TO BERLIN RING. IN EITHER CASE, AFTER REACHING BERLIN RING THEY SHOULD AVOID EXIT MARKED "BERLIN -- HAUPTSTADT DER DDR", WHICH HEADS INTO EAST BERLIN, BUT RATHER EXIT TO "WEST BERLIN VIA DREWITZ". PASSPORTS WILL THEN BE STAMPED AS EXITING GDR AT DREWITZ, WITH DIRECT ENTRY INTO WEST BERLIN AT DREILINDEN.

4. DEPENDING ON OUTCOME OF TRAVEL POLICY REVIEW, IF BACHMANNS WISH TO GO THROUGH FRG ON RETURN TRIP IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO MAKE DETOUR IN ORDER TO USE BERLIN-HELMSTEDT AUTOBAHN DOCUMENTED WITH US FORCES FLAG ORDERS. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, HOWEVER, WE RECOMMEND THEY REQUEST GDR ENTRY-EXIT VISAS FOR TWO TRIPS, SPECIFYING FIRST ENTRY AT BORDER BETWEEN PRAGUE AND DRESDEN WITH EXIT AT DREWITZ/DREILINDEN, AND SECOND ENTRY INTO GDR AT DREWITZ/DREILINDEN WITH EXIT AT RUDOLPHSTEIN/HIRSCHBERG (BORDER-CROSSING POINT ON AUTOBAHN TO HOF AND NURNBERG).

5. DECON 12/31/75.SELIGMANN

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